

Surround Yourself with Positive Influence

It is important to surround yourself with people who believe you can achieve your goal. You don't become a college student overnight. Patience will be required while you make the academic, social, and emotional transitions from high school to college. The company you choose to surround yourself with will have a huge impact on your personal development, so make sure to choose wisely.

Developing a core support group that will be there for you during the best of times and the worse of times will give you the boost you need to stay focused on the prize and energized to overcome any obstacle. **Success** is in your grasp...reach for it!



If you have questions, call toll-free:

**Office of Scholarships and Grants
Bureau of State and Authority Finance
Michigan Department of Treasury**

**P.O. Box 30462
Lansing, MI 48909**

**Phone: 1-888-4-GRANTS
(1-888-447-2687)**

Fax: 517-241-5835

**Email: OSG@michigan.gov
www.michigan.gov/osg**



Going to College can be Overwhelming

**Tips on how to be successful
in college.**



***"I wish I knew then what I know
now; it would have saved me a
lot of money and headaches."***



Registering for College

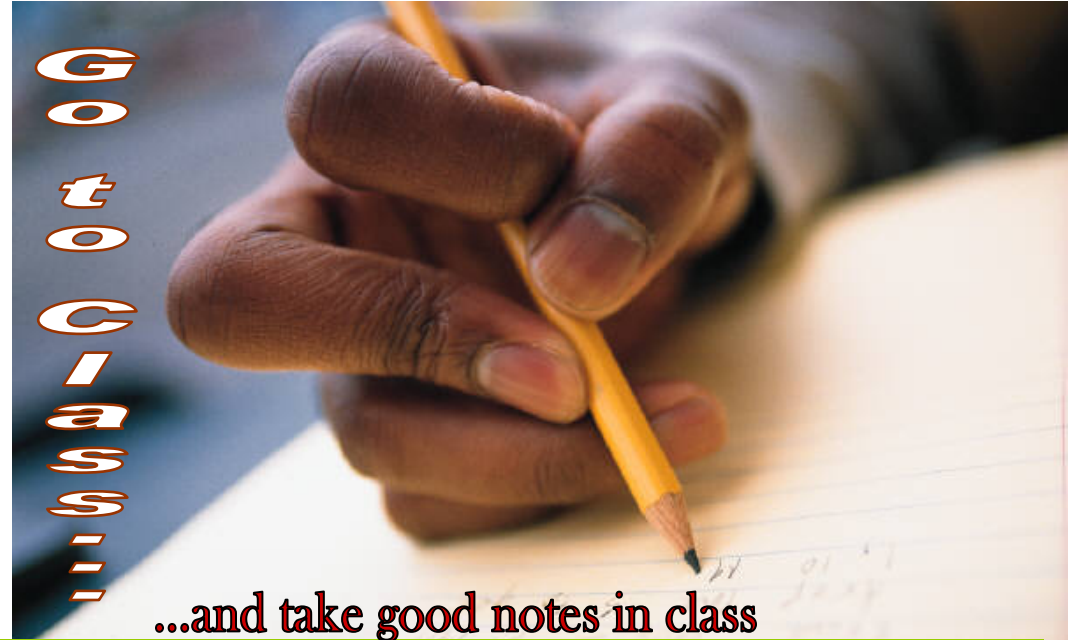
Things you need to know

FAFSA

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the official form used to apply for aid from all federal student aid programs. The FAFSA must be completed each year for students entering or returning to college. The deadline for Michigan for the FAFSA to be received at the federal processor is **March 1** (www.fafsa.gov). Since schools receive submitted FAFSAs, make sure the school you plan to attend is listed.

Award Notification

In this electronic age, most schools post financial aid awards, class registration, grades, and billing on their secured Web site. Students are required to setup a personal password in order to access their college online account. Occasionally the school will send an email notice encouraging the student to check their online account; *but it is the student's responsibility to monitor their account regularly.*



...and take good notes in class

"It's not how fast you complete the race, but what you gain in the process."

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

Each school is required to have a written Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) policy. The policies monitor the number of credit hours attempted to those completed. SAP is the level of academic advancement required of students by the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, to receive federal student aid. How well you do in class, along with the number of credit hours completed versus the number of hours attempted is very important. ***You have the right to appeal; therefore, you should know your institution's appeal policy.***



"Going to college is not enough; you must maintain your grades in order to stay in college."



Maintain good grades

Help is Available!

Going to college requires a lot of work, but help is available. Each college offers some of the following:

- Tutoring assistance
- Counseling/resource centers
- Academic advisers
- Career explorations
- Library services

As a student, you have access to a wealth of information and resources...*take advantage of what is available.*

Manage your time wisely!

Develop coping strategies for the demands of student life. Develop a plan to finish school on time.

- Plan your program of study; set realistic goals.
- Consult an adviser in order to stay on the right track.
- Stay focused on your educational goals.
- Seek help from class instructors.
- Do not procrastinate; your education is an investment in yourself.